

ABIGAIL FISHER WILLIAMSON
Trinity College
Political Science Department and Public Policy & Law Program
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

TRINITY COLLEGE.

Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Policy & Law.	2018-
Director, Center for Hartford Engagement and Research	2020-
Charles A. Dana Research Associate Professor (2-year term)	2019-2021
Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Policy & Law.	2012-2018

HARVARD UNIVERSITY. Harvard College Writing Program, Preceptor. 2011-2012

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY. Ph.D. in Public Policy. 2005-2011

HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL. M.P.P., Masters in Public Policy. 2001-2003

WILLIAMS COLLEGE. B.A. Political Science and Russian, *magna cum laude*. 1994-1998

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Welcoming New Americans? Local Governments and Immigrant Incorporation. 2018. The University of Chicago Press.

Honorable Mentions: Giovanni Sartori Award; APSA Migration and Citizenship Section Book Award.

The Politics of New Immigrant Destinations: Transatlantic Perspectives (edited volume, with Stefanie Chambers, Diana Evans, and Anthony Messina). 2017. Temple University Press.

Journal Articles

“Rethinking Flourishing: Critical Insights and Qualitative Perspectives from the U.S. Midwest.” (with S.S Willen, C.C. Walsh, M. Hyman, & W. Tootle, Jr.). 2022. *Social Science and Medicine—Mental Health* 2.

“Learning to See Racism: Perspective Transformation among Stakeholders in a Regional Health and Equity Initiative” (with Colleen Walsh and Sarah Willen). 2022. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 28(1): S82-90. (Featured in journal’s [blog](#) and on [NPR](#) in Cleveland.)

“Visualizing Health Equity: Qualitative Perspectives on the Value and Limits of Equity Images.” (with Sarah Willen and Colleen Walsh). 2021. *Health Education and Behavior*. 48(5): 595-603.

“Intergovernmental Policy Feedbacks and Urban Responses to Immigrants.” 2020. *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 53(1): 20-24.

“Mechanisms of Declining Intra-Ethnic Trust in New Immigrant Destinations.” 2015. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 41(11): 1725-1745.

“See No Spanish: Language, Local Context, and Attitudes toward Immigration” (with Daniel J. Hopkins and Van C. Tran). 2014. *Politics, Groups, and Identities*. 2(1): 35-51.

Chapters

“Declining Trust amidst Diversity? A Natural Experiment in Lewiston, Maine.” 2014. In *Social Cohesion and Immigration in Europe and North America: Mechanisms, Conditions and Causality*, edited by Ruud Koopmans, Bram Lancee, and Merlin Schaeffer. Routledge.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS / RESEARCH PRODUCTS

“[Psychological tips aren’t enough – policies need to address structural inequities so everyone can flourish.](#)” (with Sarah Willen and Colleen Walsh). 2022. The Conversation. April 11.

“Recommendations for Broad Public Outreach on Racial Disparities and their Causes.” (With Colleen Walsh and Sarah Willen.) A Memo to the Ohio Minority Strike Force. June 5, 2020.

Review of *Policing Immigrants: Local Law Enforcement on the Front Lines*. By Doris Marie Provine, Monica W. Varsanyi, Paul G. Lewis, and Scott H. Decker. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016.) 2019. *Perspectives on Politics* 17(4).

“Measuring Local Government Context of Reception through the 2016 Municipal Responses to Immigrants Survey.” 2017. *Migration and Citizenship Newsletter for the American Political Science Association*. 5(2): 14-23. (Invited)

“Citizen Participation in the Unified New Orleans Plan.” 2007. A report to the Rockefeller Foundation and AmericaSpeaks.

“Mapping Public Deliberation” (with Archon Fung). 2005. A report to the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

“Public Deliberation: Where Are We, Where Can We Go?” (with Archon Fung). 2004. *National Civic Review*. 93(4): 3-15.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Whose Health Deserves Investment? Hidden Consensus in a Crowdfunding Conjoint Experiment.” (with K.L. Trujillo, S.S. Willen, and C.C. Walsh; Honorable mention for the 2022 Leonard S. Robbins award for Best Conference Paper in the Health Politics and Policy section of the APSA annual meeting.)

“Federal Policy Feedbacks and Local Responses to Immigrants.”

“Are Colleges Good Neighbors? The Impact of Higher Education Community Engagement on Urban Neighbors.” (with Kendra Keelan '23, in preparation for submission to *Metropolitan Universities Journal*)

“Recognizing the Skills of Students of Color in Community Engaged Pedagogy.” (With Karolina Barrientos '22, Erica Crowley, Bea Dresser '22, and Wendy Salto '22)

“Health Hardship, COVID, and Attitudes toward Health Equity.” (with S.S. Willen and C.C. Walsh)

“Partnership, Freeriding, or Fear: Suburban Officials’ Responses to Immigrants.” (with Xi Huang)

“Retaliation to Immigrant Accommodation?” (with Rachel Torres)

“Changing City Responses to Immigrants Across the Obama, Trump, and Biden Presidential Administrations” (with Megan Dias)

“Status Quo or Problem? Investigating Public Responses to Racial Health Disparities.” (with S.S. Willen and C.C. Walsh)

FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION. \$699,960 for Investigating Conceptions of Health Equity and Barriers to Making Health a Shared Value. (Co-Principal Investigator, with Sarah Willen (PI) and Colleen Walsh (Co-PI)).	2017-2019
PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS. \$117,082 for the Municipal Responses to Immigrants Survey.	2015-2016
RUTH LANDES MEMORIAL FUND. \$29,500 Grant.	2015-2016
MELLON INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGY GRANT, TRINITY COLLEGE. Center for Teaching and Learning. (With the Political Science Department and the Center for Hartford Engagement and Research) \$3000 each.	2019, 2021
FACULTY RESEARCH COMMITTEE, TRINITY COLLEGE. \$4000 Grant. (And additional funding for full-time, summer undergraduate research assistance 2014-2021.)	2015-2017
TRINITY INSTITUTE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES. Manuscript workshop grant.	2016
CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING, TRINITY COLLEGE. Fellow.	2014-2015
COMMUNITY LEARNING INITIATIVE, TRINITY COLLEGE. Course Development Grant.	2013
ZEIT STIFTUNG. Hamburg, Germany. Bucerius Ph.D. Scholarship in Migration Studies.	2008-2010
CENTER FOR AMERICAN POLITICAL STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY. Dissertation Research Fellowship. (Additional seed grants February 2008, June 2009.)	2008-2009
HAUSER CENTER FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL. Research Grant.	2008
TIME SHARING EXPERIMENTS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (TESS). Grant winner with Daniel J. Hopkins and Van C. Tran.	2007
TAUBMAN CENTER FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL. Research Fellowship.	2007-2008

AWARDS

CAMPUS COMPACT Richard A. Guarasci Award for Institutional Transformation to Trinity College in recognition of Center for Hartford Engagement and Research evaluation.	2023
TRINITY COLLEGE. Charles A. Dana Research Associate Professorship Award. Dean Arthur A. Hughes Award for Achievement in Teaching.	2019-2021 2017
WILLIAMS COLLEGE. Krouse Prize in Political Science. Doris de Keyserlingk Prize in Russian. Phi Beta Kappa. Highest honors for senior thesis in Political Science.	1998

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “Fostering and Managing Community Engaged Research Projects” (with Jeff Partridge, Ozlem Atalay, and Laura Minor). *The Future of Higher Education: A Symposium on Collaborative, Project-Based Learning*, Duke University, Durham, NC. June 26, 2023.
- “Local Government Incentives for Welcoming Immigrants” and commentator on the Whole-COMM project. TransAtlantic Policy Lab, York University-Glendon, Toronto, Canada. April 26 – 27, 2023.
- “Health Equity and Structural Racism: How Do We Talk About these Terms and Advance Health Justice?” (with C.C Walsh and S.S. Willen). Monthly Seminar, Swetland Center for Environmental Health, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH. April 26, 2022. (Zoom)
- “Health Hardship, COVID, and Attitudes toward Health Equity.” (with S. Willen, C. Walsh) Presented at the American Politics Speaker Series. Syracuse University. March 31, 2021. (Zoom)
- “New People, New Places: The Changing Landscape of International Migration in the United States.” CUNY Graduate Center. November 6, 2020. (Zoom)
- “ARCHES | AmeRicans’ Conceptions of Health Equity Study.” Synthesizing Knowledge and Gaps in Research to Inform Communication Strategies in Building a Culture of Health Workshop. Wesleyan University. January 15, 2020.
- “Critical Issues for the 2020 Election Cycle: Immigration” Panel at University of Massachusetts-Amherst. November 19, 2019.
- “Welcoming New Americans? Local Governments and Immigrant Incorporation.” University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Right to the City: Are Municipal IDs the Key to Urban Inclusion. May 2, 2019.
- “Federal Policy Feedbacks and Local Responses to Immigrants.” Social Science Research Council, Immigration: The Politics of Inclusion and the Politics of Threat, March 29, 2019.
- “Welcoming New Americans? Local Government and Immigrant Incorporation.” Boston University Institute of Cities. Race, Politics and Cities in America. February 8, 2019.
- “Local Governments and Immigrant Incorporation.” University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House. Navigating Sanctuary: City Responses to Shifting Immigration Policies. November 14, 2018.
- “Welcoming New Americans? Local Governments and Immigrant Incorporation.” University of Connecticut, Department of Public Policy Speaker Series. October 11, 2017.
- “Local Government Responses to Refugees.” Policy Research and Analysis on Refugee Self-Sufficiency and Integration, Urban Institute, Washington, DC. May 15, 2017.
- “Intermediaries and Local Immigration Policy.” Cross-Cultural Communication: How to be Heard, Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection. Hartford, CT. October 23, 2014.

SELECTED OTHER PRESENTATIONS (2018-2023)

- “Recognizing the Skills of Students of Color in Community Engaged Pedagogy.” (With Karolina Barrientos, Erica Crowley, Bea Dresser, and Wendy Salto.) International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. October 27-28, 2023.
- “Whose Health Deserves Investment? A Crowdfunding Conjoint Experiment.” (With K. Lunz Trujillo, S.S. Willen, C.C. Walsh.) American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Zoom/Seattle, WA. October 3, 2021.
- “Building Relationships with Community Organizations.” (With Erica Crowley and Logan Singerman) Scholar Strategy Network & RWJF Health Equity Scholars Program. (Zoom). June 9, 2021.

- “Health Hardship, COVID, and Attitudes toward Health Equity.” (With S.S. Willen, C.C. Walsh.) American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference (Zoom). May 11, 2021.
- “What Do People Need to Flourish? A Critical Assessment of the Emerging Literature on Flourishing and Health.” (With S. Willen, C. Walsh, M. Hyman, W. Tootle). Presented at the American Society for Bioethics & Humanities Annual Meetings. Baltimore, MD/online. October 15, 2020.
- “From Interviews to Survey Experiments: Innovating Flexible Coding Approaches.” (With S. Willen, C. Walsh.) American Political Science Association Annual Meetings. San Francisco, CA/Zoom. September 12, 2020.
- “Immigration as an Urban Development Strategy.” Understanding Revitalization, Diversity, and Gentrification in New England Cities and Beyond. Trinity College Center for Urban and Global Studies. Hartford, CT. March 6, 2020.
- "Does Health Equity Mean What We Think it Means? Findings from a Mixed-Methods Study of a County-Wide Population Health Initiative in the U.S. Midwest." (With S. Willen, C. Walsh, and W. Tootle.) American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meetings. Philadelphia, PA. November 6, 2019.
- "Status Quo or Problem? Investigating Public Responses to Racial Health Disparities." (With C. Walsh, S. Willen, and W. Tootle.) APHA Annual Meetings. Philadelphia, PA. November 6, 2019.
- "Visualizing Health Equity: The Value and Limits of Equity Images." (With S. Willen, C. Walsh, & W. Tootle.) APHA Annual Meetings. Philadelphia, PA. November 5, 2019.
- “Intergovernmental Policy Feedbacks and Urban Responses to Immigrants.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting Short Course: Making New Linkages in the Study of Urban Politics: Urban Politics and Public Policy and Ideas and Urban Political Development. Washington, DC. August 28, 2019.
- Author Meets Critics Roundtable on *Welcoming New Americans? Local Governments and Immigrant Incorporation*. Midwest Political Science Association, Latino Politics Caucus. Chicago, IL. April 6, 2019.
- “Municipal Officials and Immigration as an Economic Development Strategy.” Presented at the Association for Public Policy and Management. Washington, DC. November 9, 2018.
- “Partnership, Freeriding, or Fear: Suburban Officials’ Responses to Immigrants.” Presented at the American Political Science Association. Boston, MA. September 2, 2018.
- * Also presented at the Association of Public Policy and Management International Conference. Mexico City. July 19, 2018.
- “Fairness and Health in a Polarized America: ARCHES | AmeRicans’ Conceptions of Health Equity Study.” (With R. Dunn, W. Tootle, C. Walsh, S. Willen). Presented at the American Political Science Association. Boston, MA. September 1, 2018.
- “Federal Policies and Urban Constructions of Immigrants.” Presented at the International Workshops on Public Policy, International Public Policy Association. Pittsburgh, PA. June 28, 2018.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT. Cambridge, MA.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR. Saguaro Seminar for Civic Engagement.	2004-2005
RESEARCH ASSISTANT to Professor Robert D. Putnam.	2003-2008
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE to Professor Archon Fung.	2003-2004

RESEARCH CONSULTANT PROJECTS.

AMERICASPEAKS. Washington, DC.	2007
MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. Ellsworth, Maine.	2006-2007
NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION. Concord, New Hampshire.	2002-2007
THE EURASIA FOUNDATION. Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia.	
ASSOCIATE COUNTRY DIRECTOR, Georgia Office.	2000-2001
ADVISOR FOR OUTREACH AND PLANNING, Caucasus Region.	1999-2000
SPECIAL PROJECTS CONSULTANT, Caucasus Region.	1998-1999

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TRINITY COLLEGE

CACT 101	Community Action Gateway, Envisioning Social Change
FYSM 241	Civic Engagement and Community (first-year seminar)
POLS 102	American National Government
POLS 242	Political Science Research Methods
POLS 243	Political Behavior and Civic Engagement
POLS 496	Senior Thesis Colloquium
PBPL 220	Research and Evaluation
PBPL 331	Immigration and Incorporation Policy
PBPL 351	Diversity in the City
PBPL 406	Current Issues in US Immigration Policy

DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Megan Dias	University of Texas, Austin (ongoing)
Shanna Weitz	Harvard University, 2018

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

DIRECTOR	Center for Hartford Engagement and Research, 2020-.
CO-CHAIR	Scholars Strategy Network, Connecticut Chapter, 2020- .
OFFICER	Secretary, Migration & Citizenship Section, American Political Science Association, 2018-2020.
BOARD MEMBER:	Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance, 2020-
ADVISOR	RWJF/RAND Survey Coordination Group (2020-2021); Welcoming America, Welcoming Standard Content Advisory Board (December 2020-); Sawa Refugee Resettlement Leadership Team (September 2020-); Pandemic Journaling Project (March 2020-); Technical Panel, RWJF Healthy Children and Families Survey (September 2020); RWJF/Arabella Working Group on Shifting Mindsets (March-October 2020); Immigration Index expert advisory panel, New American Economy, (2017-).
COMMENTATOR	<i>Citizenship Reimagined: A New Framework for State Rights in the United States</i> by Allan Colbern and Karthick Ramakrishnan. Author Meets Critics Panel. APSA 2021. <i>Legal Passing: Navigating Undocumented Life and Local Immigration Law</i> by Angel Garcia. Author Meets Critics Panel. MPSA 2021.
SPEAKER	Presentations: Welcoming America (March 2021, September 2018, June 2017); Public lectures and forums on immigration: Simsbury, CT Public Library (February 2017),

- SPEAKER (CONT.)** Suffield, CT Public Library (May 2017), Glastonbury Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Initiative (May 2017), Uniting for a Safe Inclusive Community, Manchester, CT (November 2017), Emanuel Synagogue, West Hartford CT (December 2017), Women of St. James’s (March 2019), St. John’s Episcopal Church (March 2019), St. James’s Episcopal Church (December 2019); Williams Class of ’70 (October 2020); Sawa-Greater Hartford Afghan Refugee Resettlement Network (December 2021).
- CO-ORGANIZER** The Challenges and Opportunities of New Immigrant Destinations, Transatlantic Conference at Trinity College, October 11-12, 2013.
- REVIEWER:** *American Political Science Review; American Journal of Political Science; American Journal of Public Health; Perspectives on Politics; Political Behavior; Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law; Law and Society Review; Politics, Groups, and Identities; Urban Affairs Review; Political Studies Quarterly; State & Local Government Review; Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics; Journal of International Migration and Integration; American Behavioral Scientist; State Politics and Policy Quarterly; Law and Social Inquiry; Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS (Belgium).*
- DISCUSSANT:** APSA 2021, 2019, 2018, 2014, 2009. MPSA 2021. APPAM 2022.
- PANEL CHAIR:** APSA 2019, 2009, 2017.
- MODERATOR:** Why Cities Lose? Trinity College Academy of Lifelong Learning, October 19, 2020.
 Alumni Leaders Building Stronger Communities, Trinity College, September 10, 2020.
 Hartford City Council Community Conversation on Drones, Surveillance Technology, and Public Input, March 26, 2019.
- PARTICIPANT:** Working Group on Immigration & U.S. Politics at APSA: 2005, 2008.
- REPRESENTATIVE:** Urban Engaged Learning Leadership Group, Trinity 2020-
 Greenberg Center for Religion in Public Life Advisory Board 2014-
 Entrepreneurship Center Advisory Board 2022-
 APSA Committee on Organized Sections 2020-2022
 Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, Trinity 2020-2022
 APSA QMMR Giovanni Sartori Book Award Committee (chair) 2020
 Ad hoc Committee for Faculty-Trustee First-Gen Discussion 2019-2020
 Information Technology in Education Committee, Trinity 2016-2019
 Committee on Institutional Advancement, Trinity (chair) 2014-2019
 Communications Advisory Group, Trinity 2013-15, 2018
 Community Engagement Working Group, Trinity 2018
 Learning Spaces Committee, Trinity 2018
 Liberal Arts Action Lab Committee, Trinity 2017
 Institutional Advancement V.P. Search Committee, Trinity 2017
 Committee on Educational Policy, Williams College 1994-1998
- MEMBER:** American Political Science Association (APSA), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

CERTIFICATIONS / SKILLS

- LANGUAGES:** Fluent Russian, competent French and Georgian, beginner Spanish
- CERTIFICATION:** Equity Certificate Program, Trinity College (January 2021)
- SOFTWARE:** Stata, Atlas.ti, Dedoose, R, Google Suite, Microsoft software